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House of Representatives

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE VETERANS HISTORY PROJECT!

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. Speaker, this bill, H. Res. 1644, the National Veterans History Project Week, comes to us from our colleague from Wisconsin (Mr. Kind) to honor the lives of our Nation's veterans, and I thank him for introducing the resolution before us today.

Thank you for your leadership, Mr. Kind. You have done an incredible job. I happen to be an historian myself. I have done a lot of work in oral history, and you described it so eloquently. I wish we could have taped my father, who was in World War II, before he died. Just a couple of weeks ago when I was back home, I met with a group of black soldiers who in 1946, 2 years before the Executive Order that inte-

grated our armed forces, had been approached by General Eisenhower who said hey, the Battle of the Bulge has taken so many of our infantrymen, who will volunteer to join the infantry, the white infantry? About 5,000 volunteered. I said get right over to our Veteran's History Project; we need to hear that because most of us don't know about that history, and it is very inspiring to hear what they were able to do.

Thank you for your leadership. As you said, it is not only to maintain our own history, but to bridge the gap between generations. So I thank the gentleman once again.

I would urge passage of the Kind bill, H. Res. 1644.